

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
of the
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
December 2, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was called to order by Chair Lloyd Dixon at 10:12 a.m. The meeting was held inside the Community Center at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056.

I. Roll Call

Members Present:

Vice Chair Allan Boodnick, Ronilee Clark (teleconference), Chair Lloyd Dixon, Allan Kingston, Robert Jones, Sara Amir, and Greg Scott. Julie Alvis arrived after roll.

Members Absent:

Pedro Reyes, Russ Guiney, Bobbie Parks, Starlet Quarles, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Joan Cardellino, Joe Edmiston, Patrick Reynolds, and Patricia O'Toole.

Staff Present:

David McNeill, Gail Krippner, Gloria Dangerfield, and Rosana Miramontes (arrived after roll).

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes (October)

There being no quorum, approval of the minutes was deferred.

III. Presentation and Update on BHC Bond Funded Local Assistance Projects and Program Related Planning in the Baldwin Hills Parklands for 2011-12

David McNeill gave a presentation to the board on the following bond projects (Prop 40 and 84):

- Eastern Ridgeline Development
- Eastern Gateway
- Bald Hills Parklands Perimeter Way Finding Signage
- Bridge and Entryway Enhancements (La Cienega entrances)
- Environmental Monitoring Soil Engagement Plan
- Parkland Habitat Restoration
- Park to Playa Trail
- Jefferson Blvd. Streetscape and Access Improvements
- Acquisition of Open Space
- Milton Street Park Plan

Following his report, Member Alvis commented on the Milton Street Project improvements along Ballona Creek in relations to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' laws (in light of flooding happening across the county) which would define the creek as a levee. She has recently read the U.S. Army Corps has completed a study and they are considering retracting their previous findings regarding issues of building upon levees.

Mim Shapiro, local resident, suggested having residents living in the area of Ballona Creek have a public voice in making decisions on this issue, as well.

IV. Oath of Office

The Oath of Office was given by Deputy Attorney Rosana Miramontes to Member Allan Boodnick, who was re-appointed by Speaker Perez.

V. Discussion and Possible Action on the BHC Disaster Recovery Plan for Information Technology Compliance and Certification

Mr. McNeill went over the recovery plan for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy staff. The plan guidelines determine what steps to be taken case of emergency and assist OES in providing information to people in the event of a natural disaster. There are coordinated efforts with the Los Angeles County Department, Culver City Fire Department, California State Parks, and Los Angeles County Parks to assist with emergency issues. Member Boodnick recommended CERT training for members of the public and also having PXP involved. Member Amir stated her agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control, has an emergency response plan in place for toxic spill. There being no quorum, no action was taken.

VI. Election of Board Officers Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 32558

There being no quorum, this item was deferred.

VII. Discussion and Possible Action on the Proposed 2012 Meeting Schedule

This item was deferred due to lack of a quorum. Member Boodnick suggested an assessment from the prior and current year to determine which month's attendance was strongest.

VIII. Executive Officer Report

Mr. McNeill went over his written report on the following:

- Fiscal update
- Bond funds
- Bond balances
- Eastern Ridgeline following-up. Staff spoke with Member Pedro Reyes (DOF) regarding the expense differences in line items for the project. The line item error was adjusted and the formula for Construction Administration has been negotiated down and the fees have been lowered.
- Member Clark re-iterated the staff's finding that affirmative action fees are included when contracting with the County of Los Angeles.
- The Exec Officer will be in Sacramento December 6-7, for the State conservancies meeting. It will be a great opportunity to share ideas.
- The parklands restoration grant has a kick-off event on Saturday, December 3, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Burke Roche Point inside Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

Following his report, Chair Dixon asked Mr. McNeill if he knew the status of BHRCA'S acquisition of the Ohr Eliyahu school site. Mr. McNeill responded that the property is in escrow.

IX. Board Member Announcements or Agenda Items

Member Jones wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and thanked everyone for their rich support and passion for the mission of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

Member Boodnick dittoed Member Jones' comment.

Chair Dixon expressed thanks to staff for a great presentation today, which covered a wide range of activities the Baldwin Hills Conservancy is involved with. He added that Mr. McNeill has done a great job of pushing things forward. The Chair asked if there were any further grant applications that may have come in; Mr. McNeill stated there were and he is working with the City of Los Angeles and County of Los Angeles on the applications.

Member Amir stated there was a report regarding the La Brea Tar Pits contributing to pollution to Ballona Creek and suggested if there are any workshops or any committees on this issue, it would a good idea to be involved.

Member Scott announced his retirement from State Lands Commission and his last Baldwin Hills Conservancy would be next month (January). He stated it has been a pleasure working with Mr. McNeill and staff and fellow board members. He has invited the Assistant Commission Chief to attend January's meeting with him; she will sit in at future Conservancy meetings until a permanent placement is appointed.

Member Alvis stated it was nice meeting everyone in person and she has enjoyed learning more and participating in all the good work the board is doing.

Member Clark congratulated Mr. McNeill and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy on all which has been accomplished this year, encouraged Member Alvis if she had time, to visit the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, and wished everyone a happy holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Approved:

Lloyd Dixon
Chairman